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#WeAreReddam

**REDDAM HOUSE**  
UMHLANGA



**NEWSLETTER | 27 August 2019 | VOLUME 13**

## **FROM THE HEAD**

Dear Parents

Following a day spent involved in meaningful community service (details of which can be found elsewhere in this newsletter), the Grade 8s and 10s spent the greater part of last week on their annual excursions to Pennington and in the Karkloof respectively whilst the Grade 11s were engaged in a leadership camp at Greystone Camp under the tutelage of international leadership specialist Dave Allan. It was heart-warming to witness the Grade 9s being given a “heroes’ welcome” back home from their 10-day Ndlela Outdoor Experience on Friday. All our grades acquitted themselves extremely well on their camps and the teachers who accompanied them have reported back on the positive experiences that they observed and we have further received numerous compliments from camp facilitators on our students’ manners and behaviour. I am grateful to our compassionate and caring staff for sacrificing time away from their own families to make these educational opportunities available. You can read about the various camp activities elsewhere in this newsletter.

So why are these camps such an integral component of a Reddam House education? First and foremost they form a core component of our broader curriculum as they provide an opportunity to teach lessons that cannot be taught within the confines of the classroom.

These outdoor and overnight camps assist our students to acquire ‘grit’ - also known as resilience - the ability to cope in the face of adversity or major challenges. For many of our students, just having to fend for themselves away from their parents is a major challenge. For others, the activities on the camps such as facing their fear of heights or other physical challenges were extremely daunting. It is a fact that adversity or challenges teach children to cope positively; it is through adversity that we all learn and grow.

Secondly these camps provide our students with new contexts in which to form stronger bonds with their peers and foster meaningful relationships. In the business of academic and extramural commitments, it is not always possible to find the time to forge new friendships.

Thirdly, the experiences provided by these camps undoubtedly help to raise our students’ self-esteem by growing their confidence and independence. However, these life-changing experiences are under threat.

Our natural instinct as parents (and teachers) is to want to protect our children from hardship. Consequently there is a growing tendency from some parents to want to know what their child is doing every step of the way on these camps. They take to ‘what’s app’ groups to determine whether others parents have ‘the inside scoop’ on their children’s activities; they try to make direct contact with staff on the camps or stalk various Facebook pages in an attempt to spot their child to gauge whether they are ok. Sadly, this behaviour is stunting their children’s growth into independent and capable young adults.

A friend of mine sent me an article from *The Washington Post* which details a disturbing trend in America's summer camps. Camp organisers are implementing facial recognition technology which notifies parents every time a photograph of their child is uploaded online. Camps are now employing professional photographers to roam the grounds and capture on camera as many children in action as possible, in order to appease the picture-hungry parents. Helicopter parenting is known to be detrimental to children, not to mention an exhausting state for parents, and regular photos sent from afar don't help. "Why isn't she smiling in that photo?" "He isn't sitting next to anyone at the campfire." "Is that a rash?"

We as parents and as teachers would fail in carrying out our responsibilities if we did not do all that we can to ensure that, at the end of a student's journey at Reddam House Umhlanga, he or she is given a range of opportunities to be challenged in order to grow into a self-assured, independent and resilient young adult. We are grateful to all those parents who have placed their faith in our staff to be able to do this.

**ADAM ROGERS**  
HEADMASTER

## GENERAL NEWS & INFORMATION

### Staff News

We are excited to announce the appointment of our school nurse, **Sister Zukiswa Chonco** who will commence duties on 1 October 2019. Zukiswa holds a Diploma in General Nursing (Midwifery; Psychiatry and Community) through the KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing; a Diploma in Nursing Administration from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a B Tech (Occupational Health) degree from the Durban University of Technology. Furthermore she has certificates in dispensing, audiometry and lung function testing. Following periods spent in the service of various hospitals in the Greater Durban area, she comes to us having recently completed a contract in the employ of Netcare Occupational Health Services. She is married and has three children. Although based in the sanitarium located within our Reddam Residence, Zukiswa will have a presence in all three schools on our campus.

### Grade Camps

Our Grade 8, 10 and 11 students spent the greater part of last week on their annual Grade Camps:

#### Grade 8 Camp

The bus was filled with chattering and laughter on Tuesday, as the Grade 8s set off for their camp. We arrived at the Pennington beach resort and the children quickly got settled into their bungalows. Every morning, started with a wake up, shake up session and then the children participated with their teams in a variety of activities. The days were filled with Zip lining, go-cart building, beach challenges, wall climbing, group dynamics activities and obstacle courses. It was wonderful to see the children form new bonds and enjoy carefree days of play and friendship. On our final night, each team created a skit, an advert and a chant, which they performed for the teachers and great fun was had by all. They finished off their last night around the camp fire. The children came home with stories and memories and the Grade 8 camp will be remembered and reminisced about for many years to come!

*Mrs J. Van Reenen*





### Grade 9 Ndlela 10-Day Adventure

The school was buzzing as we welcomed home the Grade 9s from their incredible Ndlela Outdoor Experience on Friday 23 August. Ndlela is a 10 day hiking, camping, cycling and community service experience which had many opportunities for the Grade 9s to build character, leadership skills and teamwork abilities as well as perseverance, appreciation, self-discipline and empathy. This group can be very proud of their achievement. We are certainly very proud of them.

*Mr P. Edmonds*



### Grade 10 Camp

It is said that comfort zones are the enemies of achievement and that true leadership begins when we step out of our comfort zones. It was with this in mind that Mev. Erwee, Mev. Kriel, Mr Beach and Mr Robertson left the comforts of the Reddam House Umhlanga campus with 62 intrepid and excitable Grade 10's in tow, and headed to the majestic Karkloof and to L'Abri Outdoor and Adventure Camp.



Leaving behind our devices and our assessment calendars, we were treated to four days of unsurpassed beauty; inimitable hospitality courtesy of the Nel family; and exciting and challenging activities and discoveries.

Highlights included a "moderate" trek down to a secluded waterfall where

fears were met head-on as we leapt into the icy waters below; a 2 hour ramble that turned into a 5 hour hike on a



typically warm winter's day and a potjie cooking competition that demonstrated the students' culinary and decorating prowess.

Before we knew it, it was time to leave our utopia and head back to reality with full hearts, expanded minds and deeper bonds.

*Mr C. Robertson*

### **Grade 11 Leadership Camp**

The Grade 11s embarked on the annual Leadership Camp to Greystone on Monday 19 August. They were divided into 4 groups and participated in numerous activities that developed their ability to work together as a team. Much fun was had as they negotiated their way across tightropes through the tree tops, over planks over swimming pools, "fed" each other through the "spider's web" and burrowed through the muddy "snake pit", to name just a few of the activities. Shrieks of laughter could be heard as instructions were bellowed, negotiated, changed and re-communicated!



The Grade 11s were also introduced, by Mr Rogers, to values-based leadership; the model to which Reddam House Umhlanga prescribes. At Greystone, Mr Dave Allen, a renowned speaker on the topic of leadership, presented a 3 hour workshop to the Grade 11s. They learnt that a good leader is one who is respectful of all and who is willing to give of him/herself.

On returning to Umhlanga on Wednesday, the students then spent the next two days engaged in valuable work experience. The week ended with their memorable Grade 11 Dance on Friday 23 August.

*Mrs D. Boosey*

### **Grade 11 Dance**

This year the Mini Theatre was transformed into a ballroom popping with vibrant Spring colours. The students did not disappoint and arrived looking smart in their cocktail dresses and gentlemanly attire. The evening was filled with dancing, laughter and fun. There is a special bond that exists in this grade and their inclusivity and comradery was evident.

*Mrs T Lailvaux*

### **King Shaka Trail Run**

Reddam House Umhlanga had the privilege of hosting the King Shaka Trail Run on Sunday 18 August. Over 350 competitors participated in tackling the 5km, 10km or 15km route. We wish to extend our thanks to Dave Ward and his team from Ward Events for the organization of such a successful event which has been penciled into the diary for next year again.





## Preparatory School Open Day

Please encourage friends and family who wish to explore the option of enrolling their children in our Preparatory School to attend the Open Day on Saturday 7 September:

# REDDAM HOUSE UMHLANGA

ONE  
YEAR OLD  
TO GR.12



PREPARATORY OPEN DAY | SAT, 7 SEP | 9:00 - 13:00



[info.umhlanga@reddam.house](mailto:info.umhlanga@reddam.house) | [umhlanga.reddamhouse.com](http://umhlanga.reddamhouse.com)

Member of **inspired**  
inspirededu.com

## ACADEMIC NEWS & INFORMATION

### Global Competencies

Entitled Global Competencies, a purposefully designed curriculum that aims to teach critical thinking, research skills and social engagement has been introduced for the first time into the Grade 8 and 9 curriculum. Last term saw a focus on gender roles and involved Grade 12 students facilitating a Q and A session with the younger grades to give an inside perspective to surviving adolescence. In teaching Critical Thinking from different vantage points to solve 21<sup>st</sup> century problems, students have investigated the role of 3D printing in medicine as well as new energy sources. These lessons continue to work alongside our core curriculum in order to best equip our students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

### Grade 11 Work Experience

On 22 and 23 August our Grade 11 students participated in work experience in their chosen career. This forms part of their Life Orientation programme. By having 'hands on' experience in a career that interests them is a vital part of their secondary school education. We have received much positive feedback on our students' enthusiasm and behaviour from various companies and professionals.

### Studying Overseas

Parents of students interested in studying overseas on completion of their Matric year are encouraged to attend the 'Study Abroad Expo' at Ashton College on 20 September – details are below:

# Study Abroad

# EXPO

2019

[www.globaleducationexpo.co.za](http://www.globaleducationexpo.co.za)

## 17-20 September

JOHANNESBURG			NORTH WEST	DURBAN
17 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	17 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	18 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	19 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	20 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER
10:30 - 12:30	15:00 - 18:00	10:00 - 16:00	12:00 - 15:00	09:00 - 12:00
ALMA MATER SCHOOL	CRAWFORD COLLEGE	THE ZONE @ROSEBANK	PECANWOOD COLLEGE	ASHTON COLLEGE

### YOUR GATEWAY TO INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES!

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

[www.globaleducation.co.za](http://www.globaleducation.co.za)

## BOARDING NEWS & INFORMATION

### Weekend Activities: 15 to 17 August

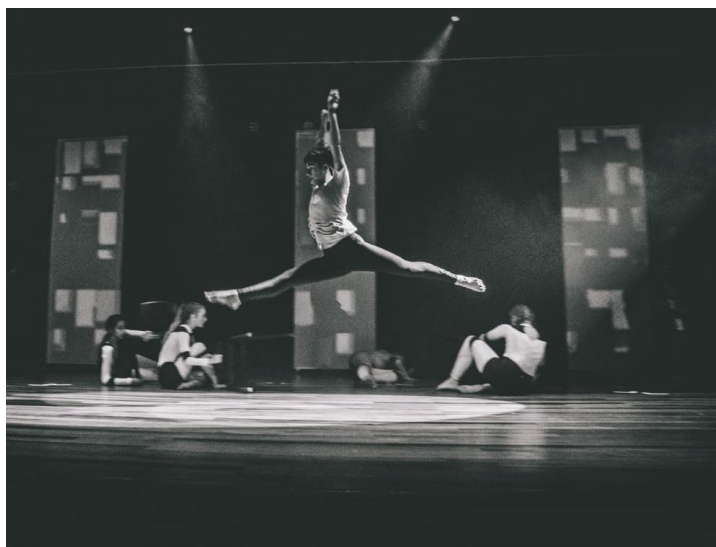
The previous weekend saw the boarders attending 'Youth' at North Place Church on Friday evening.

Saturday afternoon was spent at Gateway Theatre of Shopping in order to purchase clothing and equipment for the grade camps. Saturday evening saw the boarders enjoying a braai. Sunday was an early start as the boarders provided assistance at the King Shaka Trail Run by handing out refreshments to all the runners at the half way seconding table as well as at the finish.

## CULTURAL NEWS & INFORMATION

### Dance Show 2019

Our Reddam House Umhlanga's annual Dance Department production, this year entitled, "It's A Kind of Magic," boasted a cast of 130 dancers from Grade 4 to Grade 11. Directed and choreographed by Mr Ribbonaar, it saw dancers moving majestically to the music of Queen. "It's A Kind of Magic" proved that dance is indeed a universal language capable of surpassing all cultural barriers.



Thomas Youens



Jamie Bowring, Talia Tostee, Maya de Souza, Grace McIlroy



## Dance@Kearsney Festival

The Reddam House Umhlanga Dance Ensemble had the pleasure of participating at this prestigious festival for the second year in a row. This year our performances included: Invisible Man (an excerpt from "It's A Kind of Magic") and the heart wrenching and beautiful "Passages", choreographed by Maya de Souza in Grade 9. Both works received exceptional applause and acclaim.

## Orchestra

On Sunday 25 August, members of the Reddam House Umhlanga College Orchestra participated in the annual BCHA *Music en Masse* – a massed orchestra event. The performance sees musicians from around KZN come together for a morning of rehearsal and an afternoon performance. Putting together a programme that included works by Bizet, Offenbach, ABBA and Adele to name but a few, in one day, is no small feat and not many schools can boast such talented and passionate musicians who could contribute to an event such as this.

Divya Venkatesan, Kelly van der Vyver, Georgia Gregory, Yo Jen Chen, Rachel Keats, Kate Searle, Gemma Coleman, Demi De Charmoy, Amahle Zondi, Brogan Rolfe, Damien Stephen, Kyran Taylor





## COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS

### Grade 8 Outreach Day

Our Grade 8 students visited Kwathintwa School for the Deaf in Cato Ridge on Monday 18 August. Our students involved themselves by playing literacy games with the Grade 1s and sport with the Grade Rs. In turn our students were taught through a session of South African Sign Language. Our Grade 8s also spent part of their day cleaning the students' hostel.



Joelle Thomson, Tallulah Crosby, Charlotte Sinclair



Samuel Pinaar, Christy Dudas, Talia Poupard, Sophie Duke, Thoas Youens, Joelle Thomson, Cassidy Yates, Kyrán Taylor

### Grade 10 Outreach Day

The Grade 10s visited Natest Primary School in Phoenix, where they were given the task of developing a day of activities for the Grade Rs to Grade 3s. The day added a lot of value as we were involved in literacy games, dance sessions and physical activities like egg and spoon races and soccer. A lot of fun was had by both groups of students.



Ayush Goordeen and Shante Moodley



Jethro Fitzpatrick

## SPONSORSHIP NEWS & INFORMATION

### Astroturf Advertising Boards

We are excited to launch our Astroturf advertising board project. An exemplary advertising board has already been erected on the fence around the Astroturf. Please contact Ian Gardiner for further information on [sponsorship.umhlanga@reddam.house](mailto:sponsorship.umhlanga@reddam.house) or 0824466228



## Leave your Mark

# LEAVE YOUR MARK

We are offering Reddam House Umhlanga parents and friends the opportunity of purchasing a garden bench for placement on the campus. A plaque with the family name or in remembrance of a loved one will be affixed to the bench.

Sponsor a bench

and leave a

LEGACY

Contact Ian Gardiner

[sponsorship.umhlanga@reddam.house](mailto:sponsorship.umhlanga@reddam.house)

## My School Card

We encourage parents to please remember to swipe your My School card when shopping at any of the affiliated stores. These stores include Woolworths, Walton's, Engen, Flight Centre and Loot. The full list of affiliated partners can be found on the My School website. A portion of your spend is given back to the school and these funds will be utilised towards the beautification of our school grounds as well as the purchase of books for the library.



# GET MORE SUPPORTERS RAISE MORE FUNDS



## SPORTS NEWS

### The Fast & Fittest CrossFit Competition.

Reddam House Umhlanga will be hosting this grueling event on 31 August and 1 September 2019. If you are keen for a fun day out and witnessing some incredible athletes, Reddam House Umhlanga will be the place to be. Registration takes place on 30 August.

**CrossFit Fittest**  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
**REDDAM House UMHLANGA**  
**BOXCHAMP**  
POWERED BY Reebok  
PRESENTS  
**THE FAST & FITTEST**  
**DATE:** 30 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER 2019  
**VENUE:** REDDAM HOUSE UMHLANGA  
**CONTACT:** [INFO@FASTANDFITTEST.CO.ZA](mailto:INFO@FASTANDFITTEST.CO.ZA)

## SPORTS RESULTS

### Boys' Indoor Hockey

u14A

vs Clifton College drew 4-4

vs Glenwood High School won 4-2

u16A

vs Glenwood High School lost 2-8

vs Northwood lost 2-7

1<sup>st</sup> Team

vs Hillcrest High School won 6-2

vs Amanzimtoti High School won 7-5

### Girls' Soccer

vs Port Shepstone High School

u14A won 1-0

u16A won 1-0

2<sup>nd</sup> Team drew 1-1

1<sup>st</sup> Team lost 0-1

### Boys' Water Polo

Juniors vs Thomas More College lost 7-12

Seniors vs Thomas More College 2nds won 15-0



### Girls' Water Polo

u14A vs St Mary's u14A won 9-2

1<sup>st</sup> Team vs St Mary's u16A won 7-6

### Rhythmic Gymnastics

Esther Ephraim participated in the Ocean Rhythmic Gymnastics Invitational Competition and was placed 1st in the "Level 9, U15" category with her routines for Hoop, Ball and Clubs. She is now eligible to compete in the KZN Regional competition on 24 August.

### Cross Country

Congratulations to Taryn Jabour for coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Umlazi Cross Country trials held recently.

### Figure Skating

Congratulations to Alys Dunford who has been selected to captain the KZN Figure Skating team in the upcoming Interprovincial Figure Skating Competition to take place from 30 August to 1 September.

## DATES TO DIARISE

**28 August**

17h30 RHU Grade 6 Parents College Information Evening (College building)

**29 August –  
1 September**

Junior & Senior Water Polo Tour to Reddam House Helderfontein

**2 September**

Reddam Day (students to wear normal everyday school uniform)

**6 September**

18h00 Grade 8 Story Telling Evening (College Field)

**7 September**

09h00 Preparatory School Open Day

**REDDAM ADS**



Please click on this button to see our Reddam House Umhlanga Advertisements